

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: The “3 Rivers Rehab” Timber Sale No. 30-074826 and the attached Forest Practice Application No. 2605624 is a one-unit regeneration harvest encompassing approximately 47.46 acres containing approximately 970 mbf of second-growth mixed conifer timber. Of this 47.46 acres, 3.49 acres is Type A wetland management zone and 43.97 acres are to be harvested. This is a rehab sale of a poor quality second-growth stand of mixed conifer. Stand age is approximately 38 years. Due to the poor quality of the timber on this site it is being harvested at an early age so a new prosperous stand can be regenerated. Green tree retention efforts were targeted at leaving trees with good form and The Type A wetland located along the eastern boundary has been protected with a 170’ wetland management zone.

Description of mitigation: Several measures have been taken to ensure that this proposal will not contribute to adverse environmental impacts. A wetland management zone of 170’ has been placed on a Type A wetland along the eastern boundary of the proposal as prescribed by DNR’s Habitat Conservation Plan.

This

WMZ will be thinned down to 120 square feet of basal area per acre as per OESF wetland procedures.

No harvest activity will occur within 25’ of the wetland edge.

The OESF marbled murrelet model identifies the sale area as non-habitat for marbled murrelets. Two DNR timber stands, one along the northwestern boundary and the other along the southern boundary have been modeled as murrelet habitat by the OESF murrelet model. These stands have been surveyed and were found to be non-occupied.

Retaining 8 leave trees per acre will provide legacy elements for recruitment of future snags, coarse woody debris, multi-layered stands, and large diameter trees. In combination these features will provide elements of old forest habitat characteristics within the next rotation. By managing to develop climax forest characteristics, habitats will be provided for wildlife species dependent on old forest habitat.

This sale will construct approximately 181’ of new forest road and reconstruct approximately 480’ of existing road. These roads are located on flat ground and have no water resources associated with them. Upon completion of harvest these roads will be abandoned.

To protect soil productivity and reduce erosion, ground based operations will be suspended during periods of wet weather or wet soil conditions when rutting of skid or shovel roads begins. These measures will minimize harvest and road impacts on the environment. Following harvest, the site will be replanted with native conifer species and managed as forestland.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: This proposal is located off the D-3000 road system in Section 16 and 21 of Township 28 North, Range 14 West, W.M., approximately 7 miles west of Forks, Washington.

Lead agency: Washington State Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

[] **There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.**

[X] This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from August 25, 2003. Comments must be submitted by September 8, 2003.

Responsible official Charlie Cortelyou

Position/title Region Manager **Phone** 360-374-6131

Address Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region
411 Tillicum Lane
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Date _____

Signature _____

There is no agency SEPA appeal.

11/09/00